

~~SECRET~~

Office of Legislative Counsel

Journal

Friday - 20 February 1959

25X1 1. [] telephoned to say that [] would assist in briefing Representative Robert L. F. Sikes (D., Fla.) on the Russian budget.

2. Frank Eckert of the Bureau of the Budget telephoned to inquire if the Agency was taking any position on the measures introduced in this Congress for a Joint Committee on Foreign Intelligence. He indicated that State Department was responding to a query from the Hill on this and he wanted to know our position. I informed him that we had responded to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in connection with S. J. Res. 34 in substantially similar vein as our reply of last year to Howard Smith, Chairman of the House Rules Committee and, consequently, we had not checked our reply with the Bureau of the Budget. However, we agreed and did forward to Mr. Eckert a copy of our letter to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee dated 12 February 1959.

3. Boyd Crawford, Staff Director of House Foreign Affairs, telephoned to say there had been considerable discussion in the House Foreign Affairs Committee concerning the Charles Edmundson article in THE PROGRESSIVE which had been inserted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of 11 February 1959 by Representative Byron L. Johnson (D., Colo.). Mr. Crawford indicated there was some public interest in following up on this, particularly in Wayne Hays' Subcommittee on State Department Organization and Foreign Operations. Mr. Crawford seemed familiar with THE PROGRESSIVE magazine and with Representative Johnson. It was agreed that in the near future I would sit down with Mr. Crawford to discuss this situation in more detail.

4. The DCI appeared before the CIA Subcommittee of House Armed Services for the third of a series of briefings on CIA. See Memorandum for the Record.

25X1 5. [] (Personnel) called and said that in response to our request, Gordon Stewart had talked with Joe Winslow concerning H. R. 3059, a bill introduced by Congressman Edward H. Rees (R., Kans.) to amend the Veterans' Preference Act. Winslow told Mr. Stewart that his off-the-cuff feeling was that this bill had a 50/50 chance in the Congress this year and an even better chance next year. He said he would check further and report with Mr. Stewart.

~~SECRET~~